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In re Application of	:	OFFICE OF PETITIONS
YASHINAGA, et al.	:	DECISION ON PETITION
Application No. 10/553,038	:	TO MAKE SPECIAL
Filed: June 25, 2008	:	37 CFR 1.102
Attorney Docket No. 00684.102862.	:	

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.102, filed October 29, 2010, to make the above-identified application special under the Patent Application Backlog Reduction Stimulus Plan which is a pilot program set forth at 74 Federal Register Notice 62285 (November 27, 2009) and 75 Federal register Notice 36063 (June 24, 2010).

The petition is **GRANTED**.

A grantable petition to make an application special under 37 CFR 1.102 and the pilot program as set forth in 74 FR 62285 and 75 FR 36063 must be directed to a nonprovisional application filed prior to October 1, 2009.

The USPTO will accord special status for examination under Patent Application Backlog Reduction Stimulus Plan under the following conditions:

- (1) The application for which special status is sought is a nonprovisional application that has an actual filing date earlier than October 1, 2009;
- (2) The applicant has another copending nonprovisional application that has an actual filing date earlier than October 1, 2009, and is complete under 37 CFR 1.53;
- (3) The application for which special status is sought and the other copending nonprovisional application either are owned by the same party as of October 1, 2009, or name at least one inventor in common;
- (4) The applicant files a letter of express abandonment under 37 CFR 1.138(a) in the copending nonprovisional application before it has been taken up for examination and
 - a) include a statement that the applicant has not and will not file a new application that claims the same invention claimed in the expressly abandoned application;
 - b) includes with the letter of express abandonment a statement that the applicant has not and will not file an application that claims the benefit of the

expressly abandoned application under any provision of title 35, United States Code, and

c) the applicant agrees not to request a refund of any fees paid in the expressly abandoned application; and

(5) The applicant files a petition under 37 CFR 1.102 in the application for which special status is sought that

a) includes a specific identification of the relationship between the applications that qualifies the application for special status;

b) identifies, by application number if available, the application that is being expressly abandoned;

c) provides a statement certifying that applicant has not filed petitions in more than fourteen (14) other applications requesting special status under this program; and

d) provides a statement that applicant agrees to make an election without traverse in a telephonic interview if the Office determines that the claims of the application to be made special are directed to two or more independent and distinct inventions.

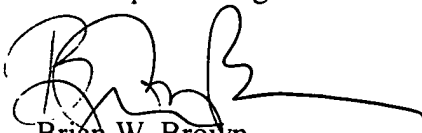
The requirement for a fee for consideration of the petition to make special for applications pertaining to Patent Application Backlog Reduction Stimulus Plan has been waived.

The instant petition complies with the conditions required under Patent Application Backlog Reduction Stimulus Plan. Accordingly, the above-identified application has been accorded "special" status.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to Brian W. Brown at 571-272-5338.

All other inquiries concerning either the examination or status of the application should be directed to the Technology Center.

The application is being forwarded to the Office of Patent Application Processing for further processing commensurate with this decision.



Brian W. Brown
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions